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(54) **Trackable guide for surgical tool**

(57) A surgical guide for use with an image guided surgery includes first and second surfaces (111, 113). At least three signaling devices such as infrared emitters (4a-4d) are disposed on the first surface (111), and a cylindrical mounting boss (104) is disposed on the sec-

ond surface (113). A guide aperture (106) is perpendicular to the first and second surfaces and extends between them. The guide aperture is configured to support a surgical tool such as a biopsy needle. A sleeve may be placed in the aperture to support additional tools.

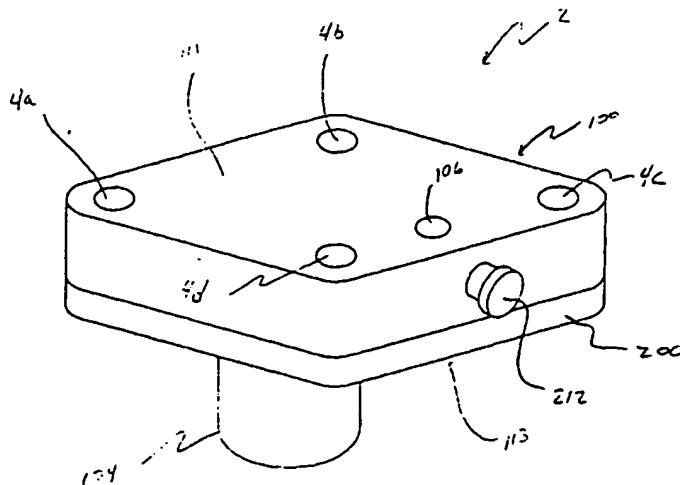


FIGURE 1

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European Patent  
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# PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 97 30 7576

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.8)
X	US 5 056 523 A (HOTCHKISS JR JOHN E ET AL) 15 October 1991  * column 6, line 17 - line 32 * * column 5, line 58 - line 66; figures 1, 2 *	1-3, 7, 8, 10-15, 20-22	A61B17/34 A61B19/00 A61B10/00
P, X	WO 96 33667 A (PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV ; PHILIPS NORDEN AB (SE)) 31 October 1996  * page 3, line 13 - line 24; figures 1, 2 *	1, 7, 8, 10-14, 18-23	
A	US 5 499 989 A (LABASH STEPHEN S) 19 March 1996 * column 4, line 33 - line 44; figure 1 *	1, 12, 22	
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A, D	US 5 517 990 A (KALFAS IAIN H ET AL) 21 May 1996 * abstract; figure 1A *		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.8)
			A61B
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely : 1-21</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely : 22-24</p> <p>Claims not searched : 22-24</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search: Article 52 (4) EPC - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		19 April 1999	Mayer, E
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		<p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>	
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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